

Message Text

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ACTION EB-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PA-01

USIA-04 PRS-01 SP-02 L-02 DRC-01 /044 W

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R 101830Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3108

INFO USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR, CH

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PRC-FRANCE CIVIL AIR RELATIONS

REF: PARIS 23122

1. WE HAVE HAD OCCASION DISCUSS FURTHER WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY AND ALSO WITH AIR FRANCE QUESTION OF CAAC'S PLANNED PEKING-PARIS WEEKLY SERVICE. FOREIGN MINISTRY TELLS US THAT CHINESE NOW PROPOSE INAUGURAL FLIGHT ON OCTOBER 29 WITH MUCH FANFARE, THOUGH THIS DATE IS NOT TOO CONVENIENT TO FRENCH. MOREOVER, VARIOUS TECHNICAL MATTERS REMAIN OUTSTANDING AND FOREIGN MINISTRY AS OF TODAY WAS HESITANT TO PREDICT WHETHER THESE COULD BE RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY TO PERMIT SERVICE TO BE INAUGURATED IN TIME FRAME DESIRED BY CHINESE. CHINESE DELEGATION IS IN PARIS TO COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRENCH ON THESE OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS TOMORROW, OCTOBER 11.

2. AIR FRANCE OFFICIAL INFORMS US THAT NO CONTACTS

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WHATEVER HAVE BEEN MADE WITH AIR FRANCE AS YET BY CHINESE FOR ANY OF TECHNICAL GROUND ARRANGEMENTS SUCH AS SERVI-

CING OF THEIR AIRCRAFT IN PARIS. AIR FRANCE ALSO LOOKS TO THESE NEGOTIATIONS TO PROVIDE LEVERAGE FOR IMPROVING "DISGRACEFUL" LOT OF AIR FRANCE REP IN PEKING, (E.G., HOUSING, ABSENCE OF VEHICLE). WHILE FOREIGN MINISTRY IS ALSO ALERT TO DESIRE IMPROVE SITUATION OF AIR FRANCE REP IN PEKING, THEY ARE ALSO NOT FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO CHINESE DEMAND THAT CAAC REP IN PARIS BE CARRIED AS MEMBER OF PRC EMBASSY. FOREIGN MINISTRY INTENDS INSIST THAT PRC-FRANCE ACCORD BE IMPLEMENTED ON BASIS STRICT RECIPROCITY IN TERMS OF NUMBER OF AIRLINE PERSONNEL STATIONED IN EITHER CAPITAL AND BENEFITS THEY THERE ENJOY. IN SHORT, FRENCH DO NOT EXPECT TALKS TO BE EASY.

3. FRENCH DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY BERNARD LATHIERE, DIRECTOR OF AIR TRANSPORT IN SECRETARIAT GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION (SGAC), STATE SECRETARIAT FOR TRANSPORT.
IRWIN

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